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ICH 286 - CLEAN COPY - CLAIMS PENDING - 12/10/01

1. (Twice Amended). A recording sheet for ink jet printing comprising a support wherein at least one ink receiving layer is coated thereon and contains binders a porous inorganic oxide and an aliphatic hydroxycarboxylic acid with more than 2 C atoms; wherein said porous inorganic oxide is colloidal aluminum oxide, colloidal aluminum oxide/hydroxide or pseudo-bohemite and further includes at least one element of the rare earth metal series of the periodic system of the elements with atomic numbers 57 to 71.

2. (Amended). A recording sheet according to claim 1 wherein said aliphatic hydroxycarboxylic acid with more than 2 C atoms is a water soluble monohydroxymonocarboxylic acid.

3. (Amended). A recording sheet according to claim 2 wherein said water soluble monohydroxymonocarboxylic acid is 2-hydroxypropionic acid.

4. (Canceled). A recording sheet according to claim 1 wherein said porous inorganic oxide is colloidal aluminum oxide or colloidal aluminum oxide/hydroxide.

5. (Twice Amended) A recording sheet according to claim 1 wherein said porous inorganic oxide is colloidal γ - Al_2O_3 .

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6. (Canceled). A recording sheet according to claim 1 wherein said porous inorganic oxide is pseudo-bohemite.

7. (Canceled). A recording sheet according to claim 1 wherein said porous inorganic oxide is AlOOH or pseudo-bohemite; and further includes at least one element of the rare earth metal series of the periodic system of the elements with atomic numbers 57 to 71.

8. (Amended). A recording sheet according to claim 7 wherein said pseudo-bohemite is prepared by hydrolysis of aluminum isopropoxide in the presence of the hydroxycarboxylic acid.

9. (Amended). A recording sheet according to claim 1 to wherein said binders are gelatine, polyvinyl alcohol or polyvinyl pyrrolidone or mixtures thereof.

10. (Canceled). Coating compositions for the preparation of ink receiving layers for recording sheets for ink jet printing according to claims 1 to 9.

11. A recording sheet according to claim 7 wherein said element is present in an amount of from 0.04 to 4.2 mole percent relative to Al_2O_3 .

12. A recording sheet according to claim 1 further comprising water soluble metal salts selected from the group consisting of alkaline earth metal salts and rare earth metal salts.

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13. A recording sheet according to claim 12 wherein said rare earth metal salt is lanthanum nitrate.

14. A recording sheet according to claim 1 further comprising cross-linking agents.

15. (Amended). A recording sheet according to claim 1 further comprising fillers selected from the group consisting of kaolin, talcum, Ca- or Ba-carbonates, silica, titanium dioxide, bentonite, zeolite, aluminum silicate, calcium silicate or colloidal silicon dioxide and polymer beads.

16. A recording sheet according to claim 1 further comprising at least one or more of a compound selected from the group consisting of surfactants, brightening agents, UV absorbers, light stabilizers and antioxidants.

17. A recording sheet according to claim 1 wherein said porous inorganic oxide and said aliphatic hydroxycarboxylic acid with more than 2 C atoms are in the same layer.

B2 18. (Amended). A recording sheet according to claim 1 further comprising an auxiliary layer which includes a porous inorganic oxide and or an aliphatic hydroxycarboxylic acid with more than 2 C atoms.

19. (Amended). A recording sheet according to claim 1 wherein the coating on said support has a thickness in the range of 0.5 to 100 μm dry thickness.

20. A recording sheet according to claim 1 wherein said support is coated with an antistatic layer or an anticurl layer on the uncoated support surface.

B3 21. A recording sheet according to claim 1 further comprising fillers selected from the group consisting of inorganic inert particles



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F A C S I M I L E

DATE: June 26, 2002

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FROM: Lori S. Rowan
Reg. No. 36,146

RE: U.S. Patent Application 09/336,462
RECORDING SHEETS FOR INK JET PRINTING
Filed: June 18, 1999

This is in response to the PTO's Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated 6/20/02. A clean copy of the claims was filed in the PTO on December 10, 2001 and May 8, 2002. Pursuant to our telephone conversation of this morning, please find enclosed another clean copy of the claims pending in the above-identified patent application.

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the phone number below.

THERE ARE 3 PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET.

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